

THE BRANDON MAIL.

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C. CLIFFE,

Publisher and Proprietor.

The Brandon Mail.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1889.

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The Winnipeg Sun seems to have been born with the Mail-Clippophobia, and the case seems to have stuck to it ever since; the symptoms growing more and more dangerous every day. In its last issue it says:

The editor of the Brandon Mail is authority for the statement that, as early as the 12th of December, 1887, two months before Mr. Greenway took office, Mr. Van Horne informed him that the Ottawa government was corresponding with the company with a view to purchasing their rights, and so far as he (Van Horne) was concerned, he would advise that a guarantee to enable them to raise money for work they had in hand, be accepted in lieu of all other protection. It is rather suggestive that Mr. Van Horne should have made the Brandon editor the repository of this confidential information, particularly as that gentleman had been laboring most industriously for months to show that monopoly was a good thing. Probably the intention was to give the faithful servant a quiet pointer for his future guidance. We are not very certain that such a conversation ever took place, but it has at least the circumstantial corroboration of plausibility. We did not think, however, such a good Tory as Mr. Cliffe, in his desire to deprive Mr. Greenway of the credit of the abolition of monopoly, would do his own political chief the hard blow he justly gives him. If for upwards of two months before the Greenway government came into power in Manitoba, Sir John Macdonald decided to get rid of monopoly, why is he failed to notify Mr. Norquay or Dr. Harrison that monopoly was to go? Why did he not succeed to either one or other of these Conservative gentlemen the honor that afterwards fell to Mr. Greenway's lot? This, we think is a tickler. Therefore the Brandon man must admit that the conversation he refers to did not take place at the time he states it did, or else he must lay the crime of wrecking the Conservative party in Manitoba directly at Sir John Macdonald's feet.

We repeat every word we said, that as early as the 12th December, 1887, Mr. Van Horne told the editor of the Mail it was suggested the Company should sell out their monopoly rights, to meet what was alleged to be the growing requirements of the country; and if the Government would guarantee the bonds of the company to enable them to complete work they had in hand, for one, would be satisfied. On account of the destruction of our file of the Mail in the fire last February, we are unable to quote the exact words of our article on the subject on the 15th of that month; but if our memory serves us aright, the Free Press of the 16th or 17th of that month copied the article bodily and made some questioning remarks upon it. If, then, the name Free Press is not to the Sun like the proverbial red rag, it can find exactly what we said in those columns. It is not so strange all that Mr. Van Horne should have "the Brandon editor" the repository of his confidential information, as neither the Mail nor Mr. Cliffe had ever even "for months or for weeks labored" either "industriously" or otherwise to show that "monopoly was a good thing." We simply once for all defy the Sun to produce an utterance from either Mr. Cliffe or the Mail to prove its statements. What we always said we now repeat, that the removal of monopoly would be of some service to the country, as it would allay the work of a sentiment that was doing vast injury to the country; that it would also be of benefit in other directions, but that it would never be of value to the country it was alleged in most anti-C.P.R. quarters it would be and that when removed, it could only be done in a purchase by the Government from the C.P.R. We ask all fair-minded men now to say whether time has or has not shown that our position was correct. Of course whether or not the Sun man believes "such a conversation ever took place," or whether he believes anything is of little account to the people, we at least are not responsible for either his disbelief or obstinacy of intellect; we are dealing simply with facts as

they stood then and as they stand to-day. In the days of monopoly it used to be alleged that because the wheat rate between St. Paul and Chicago fixed by the water rates, and not the rail charges, was but 7½ cents, if we had "competition" in Manitoba, the rate from Winnipeg to Port Arthur would be but 7½ cents also. We had the N. P. in operation last fall, and we have it now, and we ask if its inception has verified that statement. No; we have instead the Northern Pacific, with an agreement with the government its rates will not be higher than those of the C.P.R. In the ordinary course of things the C.P.R. made a reduction of a cent or two last fall and the N.P. followed suit, and that is the reduction by "competition."

We also always contended monopoly could only be removed through an arrangement between the Federal government and the Railway company. Both parties went into an agreement under seal, by which the Company was to be protected by the government from competition for 20 years, and before that competition could be allowed, the Company should be paid for their relinquishment. Were we right or were we wrong—have not the company been satisfied? This is for the Sun to answer. It is true men of the Joe Martin stamp entertained the belief competition could be secured by the Morris and Fort Whyte engagements, and the only result of their efforts is a monument of provincial indebtedness to mark their folly for the next twenty years to come. So much for these two counts; next for the surrenders of the Winnipeg print. The reason Sir John Macdonald did not notify either Mr. Norquay or Mr. Harrison that "he had decided to get rid of monopoly," was that he is too shrewd a politician to disclose his plans before he is sure he can carry them into effect. Even if the Cabinet at the time was a unit in favor of purchasing the Company's rights, they could not say the purchase would be made before they knew the ultimatum of the Company; and further, even if both were agreed on terms, neither could say they would be carried out until there was an expression of Parliament. The contract was ratified by a vote of the House, and could neither be changed nor repealed without a vote of the same authority. Can the brilliant intellect of our confere understand this? We know of a few disgruntled Conservatives, who consider themselves wrecked to the party, just as we know of a few disgruntled Grits not far from the sanctum of the Sun office who months ago called Greenway a liar because of the way of the credit of the abolition of monopoly, would do his own political chief the hard blow he justly gives him. If for upwards of two months before the Greenway government came into power in Manitoba, Sir John Macdonald decided to get rid of monopoly, why is he failed to notify Mr. Norquay or Dr. Harrison that monopoly was to go? Why did he not succeed to either one or other of these Conservative gentlemen the honor that afterwards fell to Mr. Greenway's lot?

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THE CROPS.

All admit that oats, hay, barley, &c., are light and will not probably be more than the country requires for consumption. As to the wheat crop, reports vary, but taking all for all will average within a radius of 30 miles of Brandon, about 15 bushels of first-class grain to the acre. Geo. Arkell, in the north of Daly, quotes 5 bushels to the acre. Mr. R. Darragh about 3, Com. Mathers says next to nothing. W. S. Speers, Geo. G. Hillard, the Messrs. Brostoch and J. Haig, south and west of Alexander, say from 15 to 20 bushels; Frank Reed and D. W. Shaw, just south of Brandon, say 2 bushels; Geo. Roddie, and W. H. Hooper, in the Brandon Hills, say 15 to 20. Through the Carleton section, the farmers say a fair average crop. The same is true of the Plum Creek section. John Kyle and W. Muirhead, north of Douglas, say 20 bushels in many places, but less in others. Through Glen-Souris an average of 15 is expected. Mr. H. R. Cameron, who has gone largely over the south, says 15 from here to Plum Creek, rather better between that and Delorme, between Delorme and Boissevain, very light, but from Killarney to Holland, an excellent crop, at least 20 bushels to the acre. Some farmers feel annoyed when one mentions 15 or 20, others expect more, while others may not have more than 5. Taken all around, it is certain to yield from 12 to 15 on an average, and at a good price, as the crop is sure to bring, as all samples are first-class, the country will be much better off than many expect, even at the present. Probably the export will reach eight to ten millions, or twice the quantity of last year.

A PROPHETIC BIRD.

Of all the birds that are dirty, the one that persists in the face of opposition, in defiling his own nest, is the most contemptible. A parrot at Portage la Prairie, and nominally a Brandon, is a living illustration of this. He claims to be one of the champions of ultra-Protestantism, and a deep-rooted admirer of Conservative principles. Let me look at the cause of his recent outburst of super-loyalty and Protestantism. A couple of years ago, when it was generally believed the C.P.R. would rigidly adhere to their rights to monopoly, and before the slightest way was seen out of the difficulty, it was proposed at Ottawa, if not actually suggested by Sir John Macdonald, that if Manitoba would give the C.P.R. two years more

of their legal rights, without the agitation that was rending the country to pieces, the Souris branch would be built at once, the south-western branches would be extended to meet the requirements of the country, and the Assiniboine would be dammed at convenient distances for water power and other purposes. At the time we are given to understand the proposition was submitted to Mr. Greenway himself, and he approved of it, but the scheme did not meet with favor in certain quarters, as it was expected it would, and fell through. To my mind it is a serious question even to-day, if that proposition would not have been the best for the country; it certainly would have been for the Brandon section. We would now have our water-power, our Souris branch in operation, and the road clear without a Federal guarantee to the C.P.R. in lieu of monopoly, for the construction of the Northern Pacific, or any other line that might want to come in, and the province would be clear of the bonded debt it is in for the construction of the branches of that line. At the time the parrot we have referred to approved of the scheme, at least tacitly by his silence on the subject. Now, however, because the N.P. branches are being built, he turns around and ridicules the scheme to which he himself the time gave his approval to, and says the party will not remember the authors of it; that it has wrecked the Conservative party, and Sir John, the author of it, will yet bring the parties who proposed it in Manitoba to serious account. This is the same consistency that is of a piece with the bird's whole record. Who was it, pray, that proposed to "wreck the Conservative party" when Judas Minor (J. M.) Robinson betrayed his chief, John Norquay, and agreed to sell out to C.P. Brown and Tom Greenway, on condition he got more printing plunder from the new combination than he was getting from Norquay? A nice bird, is not traitor Robinson, to talk about wrecking the Conservative party? But this is on a par with the slippery serpent's whole record. A few years ago he was a candidate in Woodlands, a large portion of whose population is Roman Catholic, and at the time he on bended knees besought the influence of the priests, the "strength" of small—heaven, La Riviere, and all the other agencies, the Papacy could afford, but when ignominiously wiped out there, the constituency of his own choosing he gets on to his white horse, and berates in the most vindictive manner, all and every one who wants to see Catholics and Protestants receiving the same broad fair play. This is the crank that professes to be a critic on Liberal-Conservatism—a creature that is despised by friend and hated by foe for his sycophantic nature and record as a traitor.

The Brandon Sun is making a great effort to show that the defeat of the Norquay government was occasioned by its wavering on the question of disallowance. The cow that wants to persuade herself carpenter's shavings are green grass will find a great deal of service in the use of green glasses. Able and all as Mr. Norquay was, he was but too often unfortunate in his choice of colleagues, and candidates for constituencies. Clever and good men he had with him at times, but too often he was lured by the wiles of cunning, unprincipled sharks of the René-La Riviere stripe who never had aught in view but the service of their own ends. In the Wagner-Robinson contest, the government threw their influence in with Robinson simply because Wagner had told the government he would criticize their conduct when in the wrong, which every honorable representative would receive the right to do, and they succeeded in electing a traitor with his hands always open for the shilling. He again gave the most important folio in the government to La Riviere who filched, farmed and betrayed every opportunity that came in his way. He gave an attorney-generalship to Mr. Hamilton who was no more capable of managing the office than an average third class school boy. Another cause of the downfall was the willingness of the Greenway faction to purchase all the tools in the Norquay following that were willing to sell. Thereby Prendergast elected a supporter of Norquay, and defester of that gentleman in everything until he saw the crash coming, and he precipitated it by selling out to the purists and agreeing to take office with them. The people knew for years the business of the country was being run on anything but business principles, and the constant dropping was wearing away the stone. The change had to come sooner or later if the C.P.R. never had a monopoly, and it was hastened immeasurably by the action of traitors and the purasing instincts of the purists who now hold the reins of power.

There is great wailing at the Portage because it is understood the M. N. W. R. has passed, or at least is passing, into the hands of the C.P.R., and all we have to say is it serves them right. Our readers will one and all remember when, on a certain occasion, a meeting was held in the Fire Hall here, through the engineering of Mr. Smart, at which Brandonites were asked to be satisfied with an extension of that railway from Rapid City; as by that course "monopoly

could be busted"—the R. R. V. was to give competition to the Portage, and then the M. N. W. could be used for the rest. They were going to blindfold the devil in the dark that way. Still later too Mr. Daly was censured in certain quarters for not securing the Rapid City connection with that line, instead of the Great North-West Central, the C.P.R. was to be handicapped all around through the agency of the M. N. W. R. But behold what a change, the deliverer is being swallowed by the shark! It never once entered into the great heads of these great men that it was time enough to expect competition through the M. N. W. when the road was in a position to offer it, they conceived competition when they felt like looking for it, and of course that should settle the question. The C.P.R. has been abused through the existence of that slow line in many world wise quarters, and it would now but be natural to see the G. P. R. looking for satisfaction. The terminus of that road was in reality the very life of the Portage the employees at the junction spending a lot of money there every week, and if now that town loses all this money through the backing up of the foolhardiness of Martin, it is Martin and not the C.P.R. the place may think for its loss. But if this were the end of it the loss would be but of less moment. The next step is to subsidize at provincial expense extensions of the N.P. north of the C.P.R. until the resources of the country will be so burdened as to leave their recovery a matter of serious doubt. Of course, Minnedosa, Birtle and all Northern points will say they have as good a right to extensions of the N.P. as the Portage and Brandon have and the position of their representatives will be contingent on the extensions paying the way for log rolling that will lead to endless corruption. The people will have their eyes opened to this when they find it too late to remedy.

"The Con-creative party without doubt fatally blundered on the final orange question."

Sir John Macdonald either could not or would not see the evils railroad monopoly was provoking. Possibly he thought this was another ruse in which he would see "the clouds roll by." Possibly he was so fully committed to C.P.R. interests and his own pet theories that nothing short of a rebellion in sight would move him."

The foregoing is from that ever wise print, the Winnipeg Sun, and is fully of a piece with its whole record. It knows if it knows anything, that the Grit government of Canada had fizzled away from 1873 to 1875, in an attempt to build the Canadian Pacific Railway, on the construction of which the very life of confederation depended, and though they spent eleven millions of money on it all they had to show for the expenditure was a few struggling surveys on the prairies and a few tons of upturned rock at Fort Francis. They could get no company to take the contract either with or without a monopoly clause. On Sir John's taking

undertake the work provided a monopoly clause running twenty years were inserted in the contract. At the time all Canada held up its hands in favor of the ratification of the contract with the monopoly. It was found later on as Manitoba began to undergo development, by Reformers and Conservatives alike, that a change in the agreement was in the interest of the North-West. To effect it the only means known under constitutional rule was necessary—the consent of both parties. Until the consent of the C.P.R. was secured, the government was as unable to effect a change as the Winnipeg Sun is editorially to "produce common sense." The first intimation of weakening on the part of the C.P.R. was in December 1887, just before the opening of the session at Ottawa and correspondence between the contracting parties was then entered into which eventually resulted in the purchase of the monopoly rights. We are free to admit the agitation in Manitoba had considerable to do with influencing both parties, but nothing could have been done until consent was secured. The difference between the Conservatives teamed "monopolists" by the Grit press and the Grit heelers and their friends, on the question was this: The Grits and their heelers said break up the monopoly even if it cannot be done without rebellion, and the Conservatives said, "buy out what rights the company possesses as soon as reasonable terms can be agreed on." It occurred, too, just as the Norquay government through its own bad management and the treachery of its supporters was driven from office. This is the long and the short of it, and that is all that can be said. Had Norquay's followers not been made up of traitors of the J. M. Judas (Minor) Robinson stripe, it would have lived to see the abolition of monopoly, and of a certainty he in office to-day. It is then to the treachery of a few traitors (not the abilities or patriotism of the Grit party to the country may attribute the advent of Grit rule in the spring of 1888.

A Close Call.

After suffering for three weeks from cholera infantum so that I was not expected to live, and at the time would have been glad had death called me, to my great relief Dr. Fowler's extract of Wild Strawbery, which acted like magic on my system. But for this medicine I would not be alive now.

JOHN W. BRADSHAW,
3934 Paul St., Montreal, P.Q.

An article written by Judas Minor for the Portage rat stabber, and sent up to Brandon while in type, to appear in the pinch-back print, discusses in a masterly manner the causes of whatever seeming defections there are in the Conservative ranks. Amongst other things it copies an alleged interview between a reporter of the Winnipeg Sun and Mr. Howell, to give force to what it says. It feels very naturally, it requires "strength" from some quarter to give even a shadow, to say nothing of substance, of truth to what it says, and it has to tack on expressions from Mr. Howell which he never uttered. The trouble is there are too many disappointed shysters in Manitoba to permit any government to live long without serious defections. If even Thomas Greenway were to speak on this subject he could in his short experience of 15 months give the names of enough to fill a reasonable sized book. The pinch-back print says somebody will be brought to an account for this and it does not propose to stand idly by without placing the blame where it properly belongs. No dear, and the most effectual way of carrying out the representation, is to have Judas Minor turn his other face as Janus used to do when confronted with the truth, and get the second as well as the first side of the paper printed at Toronto.

The Winnipeg Sun is exhausting a great deal of valuable (?) talent in an effort to show the Canadian duties are crippling Canadian farmers on the implement score. If the Sun will have the kindness to quote Manitoba cash prices to farmers with the Dakota prices, which are almost invariably for cash, the farmers "will" be better able to judge for themselves. This is the actual of dealing in theories, when the actual figures would settle the point, is exploded to sensible minds long ago. The American manufacturer sells cheaper to the Manitoba dealer than he does to the home dealer and the differences well nigh balances the duties. Can the Sun see the point?

The Winnipeg Sun cannot see how the separate schools are to be abolished in Manitoba. Well, the Manitoba constitution is Federal legislation, and can be altered by the Ottawa government without any reference to the British government. A few years ago our constitution suffered an operation, an alteration, when the second legislative assembly was abolished, and under similar circumstances our separate schools can be wiped out. It only requires the will of the people for the change, and the change can be made.

ODDS AND ENDS.

In France the doctor's claim on the estate of a deceased patient has precedence of all others.

The fermented fruit of the peach gives an excellent brandy. Brandy of this description is chiefly manufactured in the United States.

Ants' eggs are eaten in Brazil; they are served with a resinous sauce. In Siam there are people who consider a curvy of these delicacies a choice but costly luxury. The characteristic color of the sapphires is a clear blue, very like to that of the blossom of the little "corn-flower;" and the more velvety its appearance the greater the value of the stone. The Oriental sapphire retains its exquisite color by daylight, while that of the inferior specimens becomes dark.

The tea generally drunk in Russia is taken strong on milk, and is of a very light color, very strong, and full-flavored. The best class of tea found in Russia is that imported overland from China, and is usually pronounced by those who taste it as superior to any in the world. The reason for this state of things is primarily, no doubt, the fact that the overland journey to Russia is so expensive that only tea of really first-rate quality can be profitably sent by this route. Then, again, the best China tea is grown inland, and too far removed from the coast to fit it readily to the export harbors. Its easiest outlet is the caravan route.

Color charcoal added to soil darkens the color of dahlias, petunias and hyacinths. Sulphate of soda gives these and many other flowers a reddish shade.

The olive, which is used on the table of the rich only as a hors-d'oeuvre, that is, as appetizer or as an ingredient in soups and made dishes—is an important article of diet with the poor in the South of Europe. A peasant will make an entire meal of bread and olives, and consider that he has dined sumptuously. In Southern Italy no meal is made without olives, while in Spain it is customary to eat them in small quantities at the end of the meal only.

In the Eastern countries where the olive comes the fruit forms still an important article of diet.

The cat's-eye stone is found in Ceylon. It is always cut in a highly convex form, and has a remarkable play of light in a certain direction, resembling a drop of water or the pupil of an eye moving about inside of it, or a band of light floating on its surface, ever shifting, like a restless spirit, and of a certainty in office to-day. It is then to the treachery of a few traitors (not the abilities or patriotism of the Grit party to the country may attribute the advent of Grit rule in the spring of 1888.

Every plate of steel which goes to make up the boiler of a steamship has a strip cut from it to be tested in the presence of a representative of Lloyd's if the steamer is to be classed there, and in the presence of a Board of Trade surveyor if she is to have a passenger certificate.

SHIPWRECK ON A DESERT ISLAND.

The Terrible Adventure and Escape of the *Meredith*.

In the mail steamer *Parsa* there arrived at Plymouth to-day some shipwrecked marines who adventures present features of extraordinary interest. They are Capt. Stewart, the second mate, the carpenter, the sailmaker, and five seamen, survivors of the crew of the *Gettysburg* bark, of Aberdeen, which was wrecked off Morant Cayes, thirty-three miles from Jamaica. The *Gettysburg* left Monte Video on Feb. 6 with a crew of sixteen all told, in ballast, for Penascola. On April 1, at 12:30 A.M., she struck on a coral reef outside Morant Cayes. The night was very dark, it rained at intervals and there was a high wind blowing. The current had carried the ship southeast of her course. Immediately she struck the rock fell over on her port side and commenced to break up, and the stern sank in deep water. Two boys, John Tolsey and Henry Johnson, both about 16, apprentices from the training ship *Warrington*, who were in the cabin, went down with the ship, and Henry became John Tolsey and William Fogwill were washed off her stern and drowned.

Capt. Stewart and ten of the crew clung to the part of the bark's bottom which was still above water, and while they were in this position one of the vessel's boats was washed within their reach. They tried to hold on to the boat till daylight, but at 2 A.M. a heavy sea struck the boat and carried it seaward. Capt. Stewart and six of his men were washed off with the boat to which they clung, but it filled with water and became useless. Four men managed to get back to the wreck, but John Forbes of Aberdeen, chief mate, and John Lindsay of Rhode Island, steward, were drowned. Capt. Stewart seized an oar and floated until a heavy sea washed him upon the reef. He afterward joined the survivors of the wreck. At day-break the *Cayes* was made out a mile to the westward of the reef. William Carter swam out to two spars, a mast, and a yard, and, with the assistance of James Crawford, ordinary seaman, who joined him, constructed a raft alongside the reef. By their efforts the lives of Capt. Stewart and six of his crew were saved. They towed the raft to the nearest Cayes, Carter swimming all the way, and thus saving the uninhabited. They landed completely naked.

After being there for two days they dug for water, and found some, but very brackish. On the third day Thomas Allan, an able seaman, swam over to a larger island followed by Carter and Crawford, and stayed there all night. Next morning Carter returned to the smaller Cayes with news of having discovered more water and coconuts. The rest of the survivors then swam over, except David Wolfe, a German, able seaman, who was injured in the wreck, and Capt. Stewart, who was too exhausted. Carter assisted Capt. Stewart and Wolfe across. They remained there over two weeks, existing upon shellfish, small crabs, and cocoanuts. During the last few days they caught a few birds (hobbies) sleeping and ate them raw, as there was no means of lighting a fire. Some little roots like the common white radish were also found and eaten, but were difficult of mastication and digestion. A large shark was on the watch to catch the sailors, and they tried to catch him, but neither party succeeded. On April 21, at low water, Carter, Shadwick, the second mate, and Edward Macdonald, ordinary seaman, waded over to an island and secured sufficient wood to make a small raft. The sun was so hot that they were badly scorched and blistered. A raft was constructed by Charles Reece Jones, sailmaker, and all the sails were made out of an old piece of cloth, some pieces of blanket, and a bed which was washed ashore.

On the 22nd of April Jones and Allan started on the raft for Jamaica to procure assistance. They were victimized with a piece of pork which had been washed up, all the cocoanuts left, and nine pieces of fresh water in old bottles found on the island. The raft sank to eighteen inches below the water in the center, but both ends were elevated. Its occupants were up to their waists in water, and remained so for forty-eight hours, when, on the 24th, they landed at Beacon Point, seven miles from Morant Bay. There they lay down on the beach exhausted, and slept till morning, when they proceeded to White Horses, three miles distant. At this place, at 7 A.M., they found a black policeman, who gave them food and took them on to Morant Bay, where the Collector of Customs gave the cots money to get them more food, and telegraphed to the authorities at Kingston. Jones and Allan afterward lay down upon the piazza outside the Custom House, being sent to Kingston in their present condition. Mr. Barrett took them to an out-titter and provided them with clothes, ordered a hot meat dinner for them, and then provided them with liquor to bathe and rub their legs, which were very much swollen, blistered, and exceedingly stiff and sore.—London Standard.

A report of an interesting English charity is from the pen of Mrs. Sprague, the wife of the famous preacher. Mrs. Sprague is a confirmed invalid and has been such for many years. Yet she is the founder and administrator of two great charities, the Book Fund and the Pastors' Aid Fund. The Book Fund has been founded thirteen years; the Pastors' Aid Fund is only a year old. During 1888 Mrs. Sprague suffered more in health than ever before, so that her work was sometimes entirely suspended, yet nevertheless she distributed 7,913 volumes among 982 pastors without any distinction of sect; sermons, tracts and periodicals were given out additionally. The efforts of Tom Price to have himself entered as competitor for a prize at the baby show were fruitless. It was conclusively proved that he is more than one year old.

Morsels of Gastroenterology.
Cherry picking is quite reasonable.
Bananas are the material for all kinds of gastronomic experiments.

It is not expected that the "mutton trust" will have any effect on ordinary chicken salad.

Outside the city whence it takes its name Boston brown bread is almost out of date.

The season for dainty and delicate desserts is at hand, pies and puddings going to the rear.

Americans are fast following the example of the French in having their asparagus cold.

It is going to be a great and wonderful season for currants, unless all signs are deceptive.

Family doctoring will be in order just as long as there is a slice of strawberry shortcake.

Hotels and restaurants do not know or will not know how to make real mint sauce.

Ice cream flavored with extracts is usually the kind that creates the aftermath of interior physical disturbances.

A heavy soup at this time of year is the ruination of appetite for any kind of a dinner, good or bad.

Alleged "blood" oranges have long been created in Paris by artificial process, and would not appear to be injurious.

Beefsteak and onions are a gastronomic "fad" to some men who have "been abroad" and know better how to eat than what to eat.

Sardines and lettuce hearts are new capers or wrinkles, the oil of the fish taking the place of mayonnaise on the lettuce.

Croquettes of frog legs are exceedingly palatable as prepared by the French and invariably create enthusiasm among epicures. New York Mail and Express.

Marry a Scotch Girl.

I know a young fellow who was very sweet on a Scotch spinner. She was a wealthy Scotch spinner, but if there is a kind of woman who must be loved economically and for herself alone it is a Scotch spinner. Scotch spinners are warranted to make good wives all the time. It is awfully hard to be untrue to a Scotch woman. She makes you very comfortable and holds you to her not so much by her heart as by your bank account. She doesn't always want new bonnets; she is rather liable to object to your having a new hat until the old one is quite worn out. A Scotch wife can keep her husband neat and trim, and herself and children as well, at a smaller expense than any others. She doesn't want diamond ear-rings for her birthday. All you have to do is to show her your bank book and kissher, and tell her you owe the big balance to her, and she is quite satisfied. This young fellow did not understand the Scotch spinner, and when he thought to please her he sent her a lovely basket of flowers. He went up to receive her thanks and smiles, and he was quite knocked over when she told him he had a big enough salary to waste in buying flowers for her or anybody else, and she was sorry to see he was so extravagant, because otherwise he was "a very pleasant young man." He lied himself back into her good graces by saying he had got the flowers for nothing, and he thought he could not make better use of them. She smiled graciously and said: "Seem' them didn't cost you anything it's a great compliment." She was a woman after all.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Tennis Gowns.

Tennis costumes are gayer than ever, if that were possible. One shown was of cardinal French flannel. The skirt had three rows of woven border in white, gray and cardinal stripes. The blouse has a sailor collar, edged with the same stripe. It also formed a sash, which was furnished with large pompons of soft cardinal wool. Suits similar to these were also shown in dark blue. With them are worn fancy cap and hose-cuffs, as formerly. Tea gowns for summer wear are of challis and India silk; one, of white challis with a blue flower and brown vine and leaves, had a front of pale blue silk. An empire belt of the challis was fastened at the left side with a sash, the ends of which were finished with deep, knotted white silk fringe. The flowing sleeves were lined with silk and edged with fringe.

A Simple Scientific Experiment.

Take a bottle and place a cork over the mouth. The cork must be sufficiently large to rest lightly upon it, without falling into the neck. Snap the neck of the bottle sharply with the thumb and finger, and the cork will fall from the bottle towards the hand giving the blow, and not away from it as might be expected. This effect is due to the principle of inertia, the quick blow forcing, as it were, the bottle away from the cork before the motion can be transmitted to the cork itself.

It Was Time to Go Home.

A lady of this city was telling us that when Mrs. Wilcox was in Chicago not very long ago there was a reception given in her honor on the south side of town. "I went to the reception," said the lady, "but I did not meet Mrs. Wilcox. I happened to be standing near her soon after I arrived and I overheard her say to one of our Chicago ladies:—'Oh, you ought to meet my husband; he's a regular masher!' That was all I cared to hear. I said to my husband that I'd get all I wanted, and I thought we'd better go home. So home we went."

A barrel of Kaw water, a peck of Atchison salt, a couple of big catfish, and a handful of weeds constitute the ingredients of a soap bath at Lawrence.—Nebraska State Journal.

The MANUFACTURERS' Life Insurance Company, THE MANUFACTURERS' ACCIDENT INSURANCE CO.,

(Under the same Management and Directorate.)

HEAD OFFICE:—83, KING STREET WEST, TORONTO.

Incorporated by Special Act of the Dominion Parliament.

Combined Authorized Capital, and other Assets, over \$3,000,000.

FULL DEPOSIT WITH THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT.

PRESIDENT.—Right Honorable Sir John A. Macdonald, P.C., G.C.B.
VICE-PRESIDENT.—George Gooderham, Esq., President of the Bank of Toronto.
William Bell, Esq., Manufacturer, Guelph.

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Special Plans of Insurance.—Modified Natural Endowment Plan; Modified Natural Premium Plan. Agents Wanted in Unrepresented Districts.

Apply to WM. SCOTT, Provincial Manager, Winnipeg, or
E. McDONALD, General Agent, Portage la Prairie.

Medical Hall,

ROSSER AVENUE, BRANDON.

Halpin's Sarsaparilla

For the Blood and Skin disease so prevalent at this season of the Year, a Sure Remedy.

HALPIN'S HAIR PROMOTER :

Counteracts the effect of Alkaline Water on the Hair.

HALPIN'S HORSE AND CATTLE REMEDIES

Give Perfect Satisfaction.

PHYSICIANS' PRESCRIPTIONS

Prepared Day or Night by Competent Dispensers

N.J. HALPIN,

CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,

BRANDON, MAN.

Special::School::Meeting.

NOTICE

IS hereby given to the assessed freeholders and leaseholders of the Protestant School District No. 129, Brandon, Manitoba, Canada, No. 129, in the Province of Manitoba, that a Special Meeting will be held at the Roller Rink corner of 10th St. and Princess Ave., in Brandon, on Friday, July 12th, 1889.

By order of the Trustees,
JOHN C. KERR.
See, Treas.

CHALLENGE.

OPEN FOR TWO WEEKS.

will match "right" to distance any stall I owned in Brandon, or will match me to any horse to beat any stallion owned in Brandon.—FRANK HUSSEY.

STRAYED.

A Hand White-gown into my premises is the early part of last June. Owner can have it by paying property and paying expenses of advertising, etc. and making a deposit of \$100.00. If not paid within 30 days from date of this notice, I will proceed to sell same at auction or that period to the highest bidder or trustee.

W. J. BURCHILL,
Brandon, July 3, 1889.

STRAYED.

TO MILEFORD, on or about the 18th inst., three Red Calves—both have white on face. Had a halter and rope on when last seen. Any information of her whereabouts will be rewarded by H. MCINTYRE,
Pump Manufacturer, Sixth St., Brandon.

FARM FOR SALE.

THESouth Aris. Farm, Factory on July 3, a miles fr. in Clinton, will be sold at St. John's on Saturday, the 13th August next, from parties willing to enter into a Contract to purchase the Penitentiary with such quantities of No. 1 Real Estate as will be required. The sale will commence from time to time till Sat. June next.

Forms of Tender and further particulars may be had on application to the Warden.

M. LAVELL,
Warden,
Kingston Penitentiary,
July 24th, 1889.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician retired in practice, having placed in his hands by an East Indian master the formula of a simple preventive remedy for the species and experiment cure of consumption.

The Remedy also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility, and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested cases has in his duty to make it known to suffering follows.

Actuated by this motive and desire to relieve human misery, he has made

the same, which is receipt, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using, can be had by address

W. A. GOYES, 129, Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING.

A book of 150 pages, containing an advertisement to consult, he is experienced in newspaper advertising, and estimates the cost of advertising, for advertiser who wants to spend one dollar in the time, for which he will receive one hundred thousand dollars in advertising a scheme is indicated which will meet his requirements.

Send post-paid to **W. A. GOYES**, 129, Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING BUREAU.

(\$5 per page \$1, printing house \$1), New York.

JOB : PRINTING

CHEAP AND GOOD.

AT THE

MAIL OFFICE.

THIS SPACE

MAIL CONTRACT.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until Friday evening, the 28th instant, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, on a proposed Contract for four years. Once per week each direction, between Ottawa and Moosejaw, from the 1st October next.

Computed distance 167 miles.

For further information as to conditions of proposed contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender obtained at the Post Offices of Bessborough, Edmonton and intermediate offices, and this office.

W. W. MCLEOD,
Post Office Inspector.

Winnipeg, July 12th, 1889.

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Post Office Inspector.

Winnipeg, July 12th, 1889.

THE BRANDON MAIL.

CONSTRUCTION OF SILOS.

BULLETIN FROM PROF. ROBERTSON
ON ENSILAGE.

How to Satisfactorily Cure a Crop of Fodder

Corn—Growing the Crop—Building &
Site—Filling the Silo—Size and Cost.

BY PROF. ROBERTSON, AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

For the benefit of our readers we reproduce the last bulletin issued by the Ontario Department of Agriculture on "Fodder Corn and the Silo." The information ought to prove of great value to the farming community. The bulletin says:

No single subject connected with agriculture is to-day creating so much discussion or receiving so much thoughtful attention from the farmers of Ontario as that of ensilage. And it deserves more attention than has yet been given to it. A lingering prejudice still exists in the minds of a few farmers against the construction and use of silos. That feeling, which is unworthy to be called a judgment, had its origin in the partial failure of some of the first efforts to introduce that system of preserving fodders into this country. But as the cause of such failures, for, at the best, only partial success, have been discovered and can always guard against, remedied or removed, satisfactory results may now be relied upon with certainty.

In the handling of any perishable commodity, haphazard treatment will give haphazard results. Occasionally no loss may be sustained, but generally the damage and loss will be proportionate to the absence of applied knowledge and skill. A clear knowledge of "how to do it" and the doing of it' just that way will enable farmers as well as other men to successfully cope with the things most difficult to do well. The simplest and easiest jobs need similar preparatory equipment and performing ability in the men who undertake them. The curing of a crop of fodder corn in a silo is now an easy and invariably satisfactory task to the farmer who follows right directions with reasonable prudence.

Let me make clear the use of the new names. A silo (from the French) is simply an air-tight building, box, tank, compartment, trench or pit into which fodders in a succulent state are put for preservation and curing. Silage, or as it is sometimes written ensilage, is the feeding substance after it has been so preserved and cured. Hence there are corn silage, clover silage, oats and pease silage, etc.

Former Results.

It used to be stated that there was a loss on feeding the value of fodders when put into and taken from a silo. When the silage was partially rotten of course that was the case, but a similar depreciation of quality and consequent loss in feeding value would result if hay, grain or straw were allowed to become rotten in the mows or granary. The rotting was and always is resultant from unsuitable conditions. These the silo is intended to guard against and remove. Then came the period when scientific men and others loudly advertised the presumption of those who stated that they found the feeding value of the fodder increased by the heating in a silo. However, the cows agreed with the statement, and in estimating the feeding value of the fodder the verdict of the animal that consumes it is always worth more than the opinion of the analyst. "You cannot take anything out of a silo you did not put into it," was the bravado used as a silencer, but the fact still contradicts this assertion. Would a dairyman pay any heed to a "book scientist" who told him with scholarly dignity and unbecoming contempt for facts that he could not take anything out of his cheese curing room which he did not put into it? He knows he puts in green, uncooked cheese, almost wholly indigestible, and that he takes out cured cheese almost wholly digestible. In the same way, to some extent, cured silage has a higher feeding value than the fodder uncooked.

GROWING THE CROP.

The manner in which the crop is grown has very important influence on the possibility of its advantageous curing. In Ontario the corn crop is not suitable for ensilage uses. It should be grown to near maturity. Therefore the several plants will contain the largest amount of nourishment, and will also be capable of long preservation without loss. The feeding value per acre is also highest when the crop is almost mature when cut. The conditions requisite for securing that degree of growth in the corn plants in our province are: (1) early planting, (2) thin sowing, (3) frequent cultivation.

(1) Planting.—The land for a corn crop should be drained, either naturally or by artificial underdrainage. It should be worked into a fine seed bed. To attain that I recommend for most Ontario soils deep fall plowing and only surface cultivation in the spring. Early planting should be shallow, that the sun may warm the seed bed and seed and prevent rotting. A liberal quantity of barnyard manure worked into the soil will be profitably applied. Phosphate fertilizers are also valuable.

(2) Seeds.—The crop should be grown in rows. If the land be very weedy it can perhaps be cleared more economically by plowing in hills. The largest variety of corn that will grow to near maturity in the locality is the sort that should be used. Three seeds to the hill three feet apart both ways will be enough. The rows should be from 3 ft. to 3 ft. 6 in. apart. The seed should be put in not thicker than one grain every six inches in each row. A common force seed drill may be used, all the spouts except two or three being stopped up.

(3) Cultivation.—Level cultivation is preferable to "hilling up" or "moulding up." As soon as the corn appears two inches above ground it should be harrowed over with light harrows. That treatment will keep down any growth of grass and destroy tender weeds. The harrowing should be repeated twice before the corn is six inches high. Frequent cultivation between the rows or hills afterwards will keep down weeds and promote growth. The cultivation should be justified, but after the crop grows to be

six inches high it should be shallower. That may be kept up until the stalks are higher than the man and the horse. When the lower leaves begin to turn yellow and the ears of corn are in the milky stage, and quite dry for boiling for table use, the crop should be cut.

THEORY OF CURING.

It is possible to cure silage to advantage, and in such a way that it may be preserved indefinitely, mainly because the cells of plants continue to live after the stalks are severed from the roots. It is the function of plants while growing to oxidize carbon and accumulate the energy of the sun for the future service of lower animals and man. It is the function of animals to oxidize and so expand the energy previously stored in the plants and which the animals have appropriated in the form of food. The cells of plants in the stalks, leaves and grain, after these parts are separated from the root or whole plant which bore them, simulate the action of living animals so far as they begin to absorb oxygen and evolve carbonic acid. In this manner is heat generated. And if these cells be robust from sufficient maturity, the temperature will be considerably increased. Robust cells from plants almost mature are also much less liable to become the prey of minute bacteria. They are able to resist their attacks. If confined in bulk in the presence of ordinary atmospheric air, they will raise the temperature to a point between 125° and 150° Fahr. When the temperature is maintained anywhere between these points for some days the life of the cells is destroyed, as are also the spores of mould, etc., which will have been deposited from the air on the plants or parts of the plants. These spores are practically everywhere disseminated. Hence in building and filling a silo the observation of a few simple requirements are indispensable to success.

BUILDING A SILO.

If a silo is erected as a separate structure, its foundation had better be a low stone or concrete wall. A clay floor raised above the outside level to prevent dampness will be cheapest and best. A silo of planks may be built on the top of the foundation wall. A common balloon frame may be erected by using as studs 16 ft. or 18 ft. planks, 2 in. x 10 in., or 2 in. x 12 in., placed 2 or 2 ft. apart. To secure them safely at the bottom against lateral pressure while the silo is being filled, they should be mortised and toe-nailed, or cut so that the heads will extend down in front of the studs as shown in Fig. 2. To give additional security, the planks for the sills may be cross-lapped at the corners, as shown in Fig. 1.

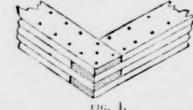


FIG. 1.

The roof will give additional strength to the sides for resistance to outward pressure if it be made after the true pattern. Instead of ties or joists running straight across from the top of the studs or the plates, where they would be in the way during the filling, they should extend like false rafters from the top of each stud to the rafter opposite, being spliced to it at about one-third of its length from the ridge. On the inside of the studs should be first nailed a lining of inch lumber running horizontally. The walls will be dragged behind. For a hauling convenience or ordinary wagons may be made to serve by putting the wheels from a front axle on a hind axle. A truck or wagon with low wheels and a large flat platform may be used. In either of these cases, by trailing a gangway behind, the persons loading the silo may carry it up in arms. These are not the best conveniences, nor do I recommend that way of loading. In the way now to be described the handiest kind of a truck can be provided. Three strong pieces of timber 6 by 4 inches and each 12 feet long are used. Strong poles will serve the purpose if flattened on one side. They are placed 16 inches apart, centre to centre, and the middle piece is extended three feet beyond the two outer ones. Three feet from the outer ends of the two outside pieces a 2-inch plank, 6 feet long, is securely bolted across the three 12-foot pieces. A covering of planks is continued, each securely bolted, until the platform comes to the end of the two outside pieces, leaving the middle piece extending. Then by removing the reach from a common farm wagon, the platform so constructed can be attached to the under side of the axles. The middle piece will serve the double purpose of a reach and front support. It can best be attached to the front axle by a long king bolt passing down through it. A large flat washer and a screw with a key under it will make a strong, suitable and safe connection. A brace passing back from the top of the king bolt to the front plank of the platform will improve the attachment. The two pieces extending beyond the platform at the other end are to be attached to the hind axle on the under side. Two clamps passing over the axle with a bar and nuts beneath the axle by six pieces will fasten them securely to the under side. The "hounds" can be used as a brace by attaching the end of it to the middle piece through the hinder plank of the platform. A rough sketch accompanies this to make my description more easily and clearly understood.

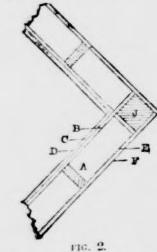
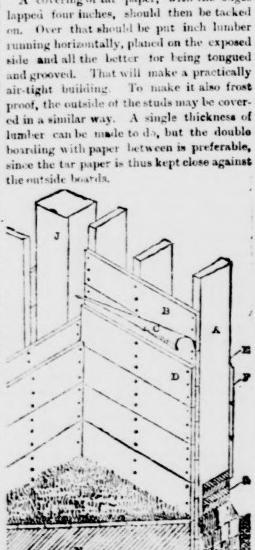


FIG. 2.

(A) Studs. (B) Inch lumber. (C) Tar paper. (D) Matched or planed lumber. (E) Post. (F) Outside siding.

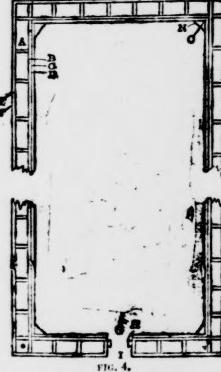
A covering of tar paper, with the edges lapped four inches, should then be taken over. Over that should be put inch lumber running horizontally, placed on the exposed side and all the better for being tongued and grooved. That will make a practical air-tight building. To make it also frost proof, the outside of the studs may be covered in a similar way. A single thickness of lumber can be made to do, but the double boarding with paper between is preferable, since the tar paper is thus kept close against the outside boards.



(A) Studs. (B) Inch lumber. (C) Tar paper. (D) Matched or planed lumber. (E) Post. (F) Outside siding. (J) Post.

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A space between two studs may be left unboarded, or may be sawn out flush with the sides. Cleats may then be nailed on and the short boards fitted in. Care must be taken to so place strips of tar paper that they will make the joints at both sides of the door air-tight. A 10 or 12 inch board should be fastened into each corner to extend from the bottom to the top, and the space behind should be filled with sawdust.



(A) Studs. (B) Inch lumber. (C) Tar paper. (D) Matched or planed lumber. (E) Post. (F) Outside siding. (G) Door. (H) Cleats. (I) Outside door on hinges, and in two or three pieces. (N) Corner board. (O) Sawdust.

To preserve the inside lumber it should receive a coating of coal-tar, mixed with a few ounces of rosin, applied hot and liberally. Where a mow of a barn or part of some other building is to be fitted up for silage uses, the inside finish of the silo should be the same as for a separate structure.

FILLING THE SILO.

For economical filling, the tools, implements and conveniences should, as far as possible, be adapted to the cheap and easy performance of the work. That implies the making the best use of the machinery already owned on the farm. For the cutting of the corn in the field I prefer and recommend a common corn knife, or an old-fashioned sickle. A strong reaper may do the work by horse power, but if the crop be heavy and the corn from ten to twelve feet high the reaper will not clean the board, and stalks will be dragged behind. For a hauling convenience or ordinary wagons may be made to serve by putting the wheels from a front axle on a hind axle. A truck or wagon with low wheels and a large flat platform may be used. In either of these cases, by trailing a gangway behind, the persons loading the silo may carry it up in arms. These are not the best conveniences, nor do I recommend that way of loading. In the way now to be described the handiest kind of a truck can be provided. Three strong pieces of timber 6 by 4 inches and each 12 feet long are used. Strong poles will serve the purpose if flattened on one side. They are placed 16 inches apart, centre to centre, and the middle piece is extended three feet beyond the two outer ones. Three feet from the outer ends of the two outside pieces a 2-inch plank, 6 feet long, is securely bolted across the three 12-foot pieces. A covering of planks is continued, each securely bolted, until the platform comes to the end of the two outside pieces, leaving the middle piece extending. Then by removing the reach from a common farm wagon, the platform so constructed can be attached to the under side of the axles. The middle piece will serve the double purpose of a reach and front support. It can best be attached to the front axle by a long king bolt passing down through it. A large flat washer and a screw with a key under it will make a strong, suitable and safe connection. A brace passing back from the top of the king bolt to the front plank of the platform will improve the attachment. The two pieces extending beyond the platform at the other end are to be attached to the hind axle on the under side. Two clamps passing over the axle with a bar and nuts beneath the axle by six pieces will fasten them securely to the under side. The "hounds" can be used as a brace by attaching the end of it to the middle piece through the hinder plank of the platform. A rough sketch accompanies this to make my description more easily and clearly understood.

TENNIS AND YACHTING JERSEYS.

Nothing is more comfortable than a jersey either when playing tennis or when at sea and there are now made in fine wool webbing in precisely such styles as modulates us for waist of gowns. The full Empire vest with broad sash and the half jacket front with Inverno-blade revers on jerseys of red, white, or blue wool, with tennis racquets wrought on the revers in contrasting color, or, if for yachting, they have anchors, stars, or other nautical design.

SUMMARY.

To sum up the whole matter—
1. It is essential that the silo be air-tight and frost-proof.

2. The crop to be ensiled must be grown to a stage when the several plants will be almost mature.

3. The crop to be ensiled should be put up at first, to permit of quick and sufficient heating; only the sides and corners should be tramped.

4. The filling may proceed every day, every second day or every third day with equally satisfactory results.

5. The silage may be covered with cut straw to a depth of two feet; or it may be left uncovered altogether at the expense of wasting only the top six inches.

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HIGH PRIZE.

A little girl of three or four years had gone from her home and spent a large part of the day with a childless wife. Getting weary, she was kindly and snugly tucked away on the lounge for a nap. Afterwards, while quietly engaged in her household duties, her nap over, the little one awoke, and sitting up, surprised the lady by saying with earnest enthusiasm, "You seem just like a mamma."

THE STUPID DRUMMER.

Member of firm—"How do you like the looks of the new drummer we have engaged?" Partner—"To tell the truth, he looks awfully stupid."

"That's his strong point. He has such a stupid look that the customers will give him orders out of pure sympathy."

BRASS ABOVE BODY.

Parrott—I do believe that Algy Balloony's sole object in life is to wear clothes.

Gratton—Ah, no; he enjoys intellectual pleasures keenly. You should see him after he has worn a sixty days' extension out of his tailor.

ONCE IN A WHILE.

Boy (reading history) "I'm a dishonest person still finished by the stocks?"

(Who speculates a little)—"Occasionally, my son, occasionally, down on Wall street."

THE SAME THING.

Julia Mamma: Mr. Dolly insulted me a while ago. He called me a pig.

Mamme (indignantly)—Tell me his exact words.

Jules—He didn't use the word pig; but he said I was in clover.

SMALL OPENING FOR AN APOTHECARY.

"I hope you will pardon me for yawning, Miss Silver."

"Don't mention it, Mr. Orwell; it's quite a preparation. I expect to spend the summer at the Delaware Water Gap."

attached unless the cutter stands on a level with the top of the silo, which ordinarily is neither practical nor desirable. Horse power or engine may be used. Everything in the way of machinery equipment being ready, the filling may be commenced. From six inches to a foot of cut or uncult straw should be placed evenly over the bottom of the silo. Every farmer with a large crop should provide two of the carrying platforms already described. If the corn field be near the silo, one team will do the hauling. The stalks can be loaded most economically direct from the root. If the crop be as ripe as it should be, wilting will be unnecessary. The person cutting the corn might as well throw it on the platform as on the ground, and thus avoid the double handling. The teamster might at the same time be loading on the same platform the corn which will have been cut and laid in armfuls on the ground during his absence from the field with the previous load. At the silo the corn can be fed into the cutter from the wagon platform. The horses may be changed from the loaded to the empty wagon. At the cutting box two men will be required. A yoke of two good as oxen will suffice. Musicians—You want me band to play at the unveiling of dot Washington statue, eh? American official—Yis, sor, that's the ticket—frivolous chimes.

Musician—Yah, fife tunes. Vat tunes you vant, eh?

American official—Hail! Columbia!" "Killarny," "The Harp That Wont," "Wearing of th' Grange," an' "Finnegan's Wake."

THE SUNNY SIDE OF LIFE.

GOOD THINGS FOUND FLOATING IN THE SEA OF NEWSPAPERS.

The Best and Brightest Things Evolved by the Wits Whose Business It Is to Be Funny Once a Week.

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LOCAL NEWS

An agricultural show will be held at McGregor on the 4th of October.

The Portage fall show will be held on the 2nd and 3rd of October.

A lost memorandum book has found its way into the sanctum of the MAIL office. The owner can have it by calling.

Several camping parties have been formed this week and have gone out to enjoy themselves.

DALTON McCARTHY will give but one lecture in Manitoba, and that will be at the Portage on 5th.

The station agent at McGregor, Mr. Moore, says the crops in that vicinity are the best the farmers ever had.

The Church of England Sunday school held their annual outing at McFadden's grove on Tuesday last. As the day was fine, a large number was present.

A petition has been circulated and signed by a large number of business men to have Thursday, the 6th inst., appointed as a civic holiday. That not the date Marquette lacrosse club play here.

The Kootenay Star, published at Revelstoke, B. C., in which C. B. Halpin, brother of Mr. N. J. Halpin, is interested, an interesting news sheet, is a new applicant for public patronage.

The pinch hook organs of the Portage and Brandon have great attractions. A young lady is said to do the principal editing at the Portage, and an old woman runs the literary (?) department of the home half product.

MR. J. R. REINOTS, one of the oldest inhabitants of the place, passed over to the great majority last week and was buried Friday. He was a respected old man. He had not been well for a great many months before his decease.

SOME Indians to the west of the city got into a row among themselves on Tuesday evening. A case before the beak was on the result. All he could learn was there was wrangling, wailing and gnashing of teeth, and so dismissed the case.

We believe after all the fuss and feathers the Northern Pacific have decided to purchase neither the North-West Central nor the M. & N. W. lines. This means another delay in the northern lines from Brandon. There are various reports as to the cause, but probably the circumstances surrounding the land grant had most to do with the matter.

From the fullest particulars we can get we believe it is decided by the Company the Souris branch will be deflected into Plum Creek, to meet the wishes of the people, who have made such a liberal offer to secure it. Mr. Whyte is away west, and until his return, action will be deferred, but it is understood work will be commenced on his return. This will be good news to the Creek people, as it means a new era of undoubted prosperity for the long to the south.

Mr. L. Strokers has returned from his trip through parts of British Columbia, the Western States, Dakota, and Minnesota. He was a wanderer while away, and witnessed rampant in many of the more populous places in the States. In the chief occupation, and money changing hands freely in speculation. He thinks the people settled in British Columbia are doing well, though the country is hardly peopled with laborers and some other classes. He saw many good business openings at many places, but thinks the Manitoba farmer much better off than his co-worker on any of the American prairies.

A MAIL reporter interviewed Mr. White, chief engineer of the Souris branch on Monday, to find out all he could as to the route of road and when grading would commence. All the reply he could get to his query is, "It is very warm weather, isn't it? It is conceded the Plum Creek people have one and all given all they should be asked to give, and fully enough to secure the station. However their proposition has been sent down, and until Mr. Van Horne's reply is heard nothing more can be said. The understanding is, however, the moment the route is decided on, grading will commence.

Mr. POWELL of Waterloo, Ont., member of Mr. R. Powell, this city, has been in town some days, while enroute for the coast. He says that before leaving Ontario, he heard on all sides that it was confidently believed there our crops were a failure, and that Ontario would have to feed this country this year. He was asked to learn the facts and report accordingly. To meet the wish he drove over to Sander's farm last Tuesday, and saw there over 600 acres of wheat, a sample of which he brought with him, that will yield fully 25 bushels to the acre. The ground is well covered with a fair length of straw; the heads well filled, and the sample excellent. He also saw Mr. Sanderson growing very fine oats, and ploughing in some that would be called a good crop in Ontario. He sees no grounds for complaint in this country. On the other hand, he fully believes, if the people would give more attention to their business, and less to agitation, Manitoba could not fail yet to be a great country.

The residence of ex-mayor Adams had a narrow escape from cremation the other day and would have gone but for the almost heroic efforts of Mrs. Adams. The child in playing with matches let some of them fall on the carpet upstairs and shortly after, the attention of Mrs. Adams was arrested by the appearance and smell of smoke. She fled and coming from a room upstairs and going up saw the whole inside of one room enveloped in flames. She at once placed the child in the hands of the servant and set to work with a determination to quench the flames at all hazards. She held them bay, but all at once they gained on her and she gave up the effort only to return again with renewed energy. Mr. Cameron, blacksmith, close by, hearing the noise went over and found she had then got the elements under subject. He, of course assisted in finishing. But for the plucky fight of Mrs. A. the house and contents would have gone, and probably the adjoining. The whole upstairs are badly smoked, much of the furniture and other fixings are damaged, and some injury is done the building, but all are glad things are no worse.

PENDELLS "busted" Rapid City very badly last week in a game of football.

MR. ACTON BURROWS and Mr. Waugh, of the Nor-West Farmer, spent show days in the city interviewing the place and its prospects.

MISS MAXINE, for a long time a teacher in the Presbyterian church here, returned to her home in New Brunswick last week. Before going she became the recipient of a handsome present from her pupils.

THE YOUNG men of Brandon are preparing to organize a lodge of true blues in that city. Mr. Alf. H. Monkman, D. G. M. for Manitoba received an application Saturday signed by sixteen names—Free Press.

MR. JOHN COLWELL is again at his post as baggage master in the C. P. R. depot, having returned from visiting friends in Brandon. John is one of those genial fellows that always makes friends, even though often through the agency of practical jokes.

EXCURSION tickets to Toronto, Kingston, Brockville, Ottawa, Montreal, Boston, Portland, St. Johns, Montreal, Halifax, Quebec and other points, goes to go up to August 30th and run up to Sept. 15, now on sale at the office of the St. Paul, Minnesota & Manitoba Railway, Rosser Ave., between 6th and 7th streets. All particulars can be learned at the office.

CHOICE of routes.—Home—Blood, trotting 16, roadsters 30, carriage horses 21, general purpose 104, Clydesdales 18, Shires 10, Percherons 4, heavy draught 30.

Cattle—Durhams 28, Galloways 14,

Pollard Angus 5, Ayshires 5, Holsteins 3, Jersey 2, grades 40.

Sheep 33, pig 10, poultry 16.

Of course the season prevented the large display in grain, seeds, vegetables, roots, fruits, and dairy products that would otherwise be seen, yet a reasonable amount was not wanting. In grain and seeds there were 57, vegetables, &c. 48 dairy products 20, and domestic manufactures about 125.

The wheat samples from last year were in most instances good, and the display of oats, wheat and barley in the sheaf showed some good crops at least may be looked for this season in this vicinity.

In the upstairs, the show of ladies' work, domestic manufactures, house plants, &c., displayed a great deal of taste and refinement.

The exhibit made by Mr. Bedford from the Agricultural farm, in trees, shrubs, plants, &c., in pots, grains in the sheaf, seeds in glasses, many of which were sent over from India by Lord Dufferin, were the subject of special comment, and the exhibits that may have looked for annually from that institution must entice renewed vigor into all classes of the community.

ABOUT 1:45 p. m. on the first day, Mr. Vantassel, the president, introduced Frolmer Greenway, who formally opened the show in a short, but appropriate address, referring to the impediments—drought, &c., in the way of great things this season. He dealt with the very great progress of western Manitoba, and alluded to what might yet be done by the people and the government in the development of this portion of the province.

With the speech over, judging commenced, and here was the real work of the occasion began, it taking such skill to discriminate. The principal judges were as follows:

Cattle, S. L. Head, Rapid City : Mr. Farquhar, Elton.

Light horses—N. Boyd, Carberry : Mr. Rutherford, Portage la Prairie : Mr. Leach, Oak Lake.

Heavy horses—Mr. J. Smith, Rapid City : Mr. T. Ferriss, Portage la Prairie.

Fancy work, etc.—Mrs. George Bowden, Mrs. Robert Edgar, Mrs. I. Bowes, Mrs. G. J. Jackson.

Dairy products—D. McElvie, H. M. Rhodes.

Gran.—Thos. Thompson, A. Kelly.

In the cattle display Mr. J. E. Smith, of the Beresford Stock Farm, J. M. Martin, of Morley, and Mr. Mansfield, of Elton, were the leading exhibitors, and as a result carried off most of the prizes.

Our agricultural implement dealers were busy as usual endeavoring to persuade the yeomen they each had the best implements in the country. The display of the Massey Mfg Co. with a large traction engine running reaper, mower, rake, &c., all at once and other and other superior implements hard by was an attraction in itself, while the display of our local men, Smith and Shirriff, was scarcely less pleasing, and quite as numerous. John Elliott & Son and Harris, Son & Co. were also on the ground with everything from a plow to a thresher and all in excellent form.

Sheep.—

Catskill, ewe, over one year—1st R. Arnott.

Leicester, ram over one year—1st R. Arnott.

Leicester, ewe over one year—1st R. Arnott.

Leicester ewe, under one year—1st R. Arnott.

Angora goat—1st, R. Arnott.

Shropshire Down ram, over one year—1st, J. Mansfield ; 2nd, J. McElvie.

Angora goat—1st, R. Arnott.

Shropshire Down ram, under one year—1st, J. Mansfield.

Shropshire Down ewe, over one year—1st, J. Mansfield.

Fat sheep, ewe or wether—1st, R. Arnott ; 2nd, R. Arnott.

Fat sheep, ewe or wether—1st, R.